

REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 9, 2006, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 1-38 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 19, and 32 are independent. Claims 1-38 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. No new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised that would require further consideration and/or search. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested because they do not raise new issues or alternatively because they place the claims in better condition for appeal. Claims 1-38 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claims 1, 9-10, 12-13, 19, 25-27, 29, and 31-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,108,540 of Sonti et al. ("Sonti") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,697,620 of Lamb et al. ("Lamb"). The Office Action took the position that Sonti teaches all of the elements of independent claims 1, 19, and 32, except "a network entity with control information associated with at least one limitation regarding simultaneous registrations allowed for the subscriber or the user." The Office Action supplied Lamb to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-18 and 38 depend, is directed to a method including receiving a registration request for registration of a user relating to a subscriber in a

network entity in a communication system. The method also includes providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the user. The method further includes controlling the registration based on the control information.

Claim 19, upon which claims 20-31 depend, is directed to a communication system including a network entity configured to receive requests for registration of users relating to subscribers. The communication system also includes a providing unit configured to provide the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers. The communication system further includes a controlling unit configured to control the registration of a user relating to a subscriber based on the control information.

Claim 32, upon which claims 33-37 depend, is directed to a network entity including means for receiving requests for registration of users relating to subscribers. The network entity also includes means for receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers. The network entity further includes means for controlling the registration of a user relating to a subscriber based on the control information.

Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Sonti and Lamb fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of any of the presently pending claims.

Sonti is directed to a multi-profile subscriber. As explained by Sonti at column 6, line 63, to column 8, line 18, a mobile station can begin by sending a registration

message to the base station, and the base station can notify its mobile switching center. After a number of intermediate steps, the mobile switching center can determine to send a registration notification message to the home location register.

However, Sonti fails to disclose or suggest “providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the user,” as recited in claim 1, “a providing unit configured to provide the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers,” as recited in claim 19, and “means for receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers,” as recited in claim 32. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Sonti and Lamb fails to disclose or suggest at least these features, because Lamb fails to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti.

Lamb is directed to a method and system for providing telecommunication services across networks that use different protocols. Lamb, at column 7, line 63 to column 8, line 8, describes that a USLR 1000 can enable customers to be simultaneously registered in multiple networks, and that the USLR 1000 manages the interaction of the services between networks.

Lamb, however, fails to disclose or suggest “control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers” as recited by claims 1, 19, and 32. Indeed, Lamb does not appear to place any limitation on the number of simultaneous registrations, as the Office Action agreed, and, therefore, does not provide

“control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers,” though the ULSR 1000 is tasked with managing the interaction of services between networks. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no suggestion in Lamb to control the number of networks in which a customer can be simultaneous registered, as the Office Action agreed. Therefore, Lamb does not disclose or suggest “control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers.” Accordingly, even by combining Lamb and Sonti, one of ordinary skill in the art would not find motivation to provide the recited feature: “control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers.” Therefore it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action replied that what was claimed was “control information associated with at least one limitation regarding simultaneous registrations allowed for the subscribers or the user.” The claim language has been amended to “control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers,” and it is respectfully submitted that the Office Action’s argument is moot in view of the amended claim language.

Claims 9-10, 12-13, 25-27, 29, and 31 depend from claims 1 and 19 and contain additional limitations. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 9-10, 12-13, 25-27, 29, and 31 recite subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited references.

For example, claim 7 recites the further limitation “indicating with the control information a maximum number of the simultaneous registrations allowed for the subscriber.” The Office Action has agreed that Lamb does not suggest controlling the number of network in which a customer can be simultaneously registered. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Lamb does not and cannot disclose or suggest the further limitation “indicating with the control information a maximum number of the simultaneous registrations allowed for the subscriber.” Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Sonti and Lamb does not disclose or suggest all of the elements of claim 7, and it is, therefore, respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 7 be withdrawn.

Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonti in view of Lamb and further in view of U.S Patent No. 6,115,613 of Jonsson (“Jonsson”). The Office Action took the position that Sonti and Lamb teach all of the elements of the claim except “determining that the subscriber comprises at least one user.” The Office Action supplied Jonsson to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and recites additional limitations. The deficiencies of the combination of Sonti and Lamb are discussed above. Jonsson does not remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb.

Jonsson is directed to a system and method for providing telephone service to each member of a group of radio telephone subscribers. Jonsson, at column 3, line 59 to

column 4, line 6, discusses a scenario in which a mobile telephone subscription is for a group of members, but that each member has access to private telephone service.

Jonsson, however, is silent as to the above-explained deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb regarding claim 1, namely: “providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the user.” Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Sonti, Lamb, and Jonsson fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of claim 2, and, therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claim 2 be withdrawn.

Claims 3-8, 11, 14, 18, 20-21, 28, 33, and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonti in view of Lamb and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,077,790 of D’Amico et al. (“D’Amico”). The Office Action took the position that Sonti and Lamb teach most of the elements of the claims, but not all. The Office Action supplied D’Amico to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 3-8, 11, 14, 18, 20-21, 28, 33, and 37 depend from claims 1, 19, and 32 and recite additional limitations. The deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb with respect to claims 1, 19, and 32 are discussed above. D’Amico does not remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb.

D’Amico is directed to securing over-the-air registration of cordless telephones. D’Amico, at column 3, lines 3-27 describes checking credit information of a subscriber as complying (or not) with certain qualifying criteria. If the result is negative and the

subscriber does not comply, the network operator enters an “invalid” flag into the network control center.

D’Amico, however, is silent as to the above-explained deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb regarding the independent claims, namely: “providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the user,” as recited in claim 1, “a providing unit configured to provide the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers,” as recited in claim 19, and “means for receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers,” as recited in claim 32. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Sonti, Lamb, and D’Amico fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of claims 3-8, 11, 14, 18, 20-21, 28, 33, and 37, and, therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 3-8, 11, 14, 18, 20-21, 28, 33, and 37 be withdrawn.

Claims 15-17, 22-24, 30, and 34-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonti in view of Lamb and further in view of U.S Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0009520 of Herrero et al. (“Herrero”). The Office Action took the position that Sonti and Lamb teach most of the elements of the claims, but not all. The Office Action supplied Herrero to remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 15-17, 22-24, 30, and 34-36 depend from claims 1, 19, and 32 respectively, and recite additional limitations. The deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb with

regard to claims 1, 19, and 32 are discussed above. Herrero does not remedy the deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb.

Herrero is generally directed to a method and system for handling multiple registrations. Herrero, at paragraph [0072] provides an allegedly simplified signaling flow of a registration process. The process begins with a user sending a registration request, along the way the system checks to see if the user is already registered (as can be seen in paragraph 0078), and, if not, eventually registers the user (as can be seen at paragraph 0081).

Herrero, however, is silent as to the above-explained deficiencies of Sonti and Lamb regarding the independent claims, namely: “providing the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscriber or the user,” as recited in claim 1, “a providing unit configured to provide the network entity with control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers,” as recited in claim 19, and “means for receiving control information indicating at least one limitation on simultaneous registrations by the subscribers,” as recited in claim 32. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of Sonti, Lamb, and Herrero fails to disclose or suggest all of the elements of claims 15-17, 22-24, 30, and 34-36, and therefore it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 15-17, 22-24, 30, and 34-36 be withdrawn.


For the reasons explained above, it is respectfully submitted that each of claims 1-38 recites subject matter that is neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited references. It

is, therefore, respectfully requested that all of claims 1-38 be allowed, and that this application be passed to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,


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